

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**  
**PROCLAMATION**

EO 97-02

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME — GREETINGS:

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER ALLOWING STATE EMPLOYEES EMERGENCY PAID LEAVE.

WHEREAS, severe weather conditions, including tornadoes and high winds, occurred in this state on March 1, 1997: and

WHEREAS, several employees of the State of Arkansas were affected by these weather conditions, and are in need of emergency leave time to respond to the effects of these weather conditions; and

WHEREAS, it would be in the best interest of the State of Arkansas, and promote the efficient operation of state government, to allow these state employees emergency paid leave to address the effects of these severe weather conditions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike Huckabee, Governor of the State of Arkansas, acting under the authority vested in me, do hereby order and commission the following:

1. This Executive Order is issued pursuant to Article VI, Section 2 of the Arkansas Constitution, and Ark. Code Ann. § 12-75-114(a), (b) and (e).

2. There is hereby granted emergency paid leave, not to exceed forty (40) hours, to those state employees that suffer the loss of, or substantial damage to, their principal place of residence due to the tornadoes, high winds, rain and other weather conditions that occurred on March 1, 1997.

3. All agency supervisors or directors whose employees avail themselves of this emergency paid leave shall maintain records of the amount of emergency paid leave claimed, for use by the Department of Finance and Administration.

4. Nothing in this Executive Order shall prohibit or prevent the additional use of leave time by a state employee, over and above that amount of emergency paid leave granted herein.

5. The provisions of this Executive Order shall not apply to the members of the legislature, or to any employees of, or positions in the legislative branch of Arkansas state government; the Justices of the Supreme Court, Judges of the Court of Appeals, Judges of the Circuit, Chancery or Circuit/Chancery, Judges of the inferior courts, or to any employee of, or position in the judicial branch of Arkansas state government; officers, employees, and academic personnel of state institutions of higher education; elected officers of the state and any employee of the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Auditor, Land Commissioner, State Treasurer; and members and staff of multimember boards, commissions or committees whether the members thereof are elected or appointed by the Governor or other authority, serve ex-officio, or are otherwise chosen; employees of the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission; provided, however, that any agency, department, board, commission or office of state government exempted as herein above stated may voluntarily agree to be covered by the provisions of this Executive Order.

6. If any part of this Executive Order is found to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder shall remain in full force and effect.

7. This Executive Order shall become effective on March 3, 1997, and shall remain in effect until amended, modified or rescinded by another Executive Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed at the Capitol in Little Rock on this 3rd day of March, in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred ninety-seven.



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GOVERNOR MIKE HUCKABEE

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SECRETARY OF STATE SHARON PRIEST